

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 CG-00 NIC-01 DRC-01 /139 W

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R 151519Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3026

INFO JCS WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12764

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIETS PROTEST AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM MFA
PROTESTING TWO RECENT ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF
INCIDENTS AT SEA AGREEMENT. NOTE NO. 77/USA IS
DATED OCTOBER 13 BUT WAS DELIVERED TO EMBASSY BY
MESSENGER ONLY ON OCTOBER 15. UNOFFICIAL TRANS-
LATION FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT: NO. 77/USA

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION
OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS PRESENTS ITS COMPLI-
MENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND UNDER INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATES
THE FOLLOWING:

ON OCTOBER 4, 1973, AT 18:55 (MOSCOW TIME) IN
THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE NORWEGIAN SEA AT A POINT WITH
COORDINATES OF 65 DEGREES 10 MINUTES NORTH LATITUDE AND
05 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST LONGITUDE, A COLLISION
OCCURRED BETWEEN AN AMERICAN PHANTOM CARRIER-BASED
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FIGHTER AND A SOVIET PATROL AIRCRAFT WHICH WAS PER-

FORMING A ROUTINE TRAINING FLIGHT.

THE CREW OF THE PHANTOM FROM THE ATTACK CARRIER J.F. KENNEDY, IN VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE IV OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USA ON THE PREVENTION OF INCIDENTS ON AND OVER THE HIGH SEAS, APPROACHED THE SOVIET PATROL AIRCRAFT AT AN INTOLERABLY SMALL DISTANCE (AS LITTLE AS 50-80 CENTIMETERS) AND, MANEUVERING DANGEROUSLY, STRUCK THE EDGE OF THE RIGHT WING OF THE SOVIET AIRCRAFT, CAUSING DAMAGE TO IT. IT WAS ONLY CHANCE THAT THE COLLISION DID NOT END IN LOSS OF THE AIRCRAFT AND ITS CREWMEN.

HIGHLY DANGEROUS MANEUVERS ALSO OCCURRED WITH RESPECT TO A SECOND SOVIET AIRCRAFT.

A GROSS VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE AFOREMENTIONED AGREEMENT WAS PERMITTED ON THE SAME DAY BY CARRIER-BASED FIGHTERS FROM THE ATTACK CARRIER MIDWAY IN THE NORTHWEST PART OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN, AT A POINT WITH COORDINATES OF 33 DEGREES 00 MINUTES NORTH LATITUDE AND 147 DEGREES 10 MINUTES EAST LONGITUDE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR REGISTERS A PROTEST CONCERNING THESE ACTIONS OF AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT, WHICH WERE OF A BLANTANTLY INTENTIONAL NATURE AND WHICH CREATED A REAL THREAT TO THE SAFETY OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT AND THEIR CREWS, AND EXPECTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USA WILL ADOPT EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO PREVENT SUCH ACTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

MOSCOW, OCTOBER 13, 1973. END TEXT.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT CARRIERS, AIRCRAFT HARASSMENT, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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